

JULIAN A. BENNETT #403772

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FACILITY: NORTHERN C.I

MY NAME IS JULIAN BENNETT, I AM FROM HARTFORD, CT AND I 100% STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PROTECT ACT S.B. 1059

I AM CURRENTLY INCARCERATED AND AM A "DETAINEE" HERE AT NORTHERN C.I ON "ADMINISTRATIVE SEGREGATION STATUS" WHICH IS, IN ALL ACTUALLY, "SOLITARY CONFINEMENT STATUS". THIS IS NOT MY FIRST TIME BEING PLACED ON THIS STATUS AS A "DETAINEE".

NEVER ONCE IN MY LIFE HAVE I TRIED TO KILL MYSELF UNTIL I CAME TO NORTHERN C.I'S "ADMINISTRATIVE SEGREGATION". I'VE BEEN PLACED ON IN-CELL RESTRAINTS, OVER ROUGHLY 50 TIMES, INTO CELLS THAT WERE FREEZING COLD. THE CONDITIONS OF SAID CELLS WERE "REPUGNANT" AND EXTREMELY "VILE". WHILE CHAINED UP LIKE A SLAVE OVERNIGHT I'VE BEEN FORCED TO STAY IN CELLS THAT HAD "FECES", "URINE", DRIED UP "FOOD PARTICLES" AND LITTLE INSECTS ALL OVER. THERES NO TELLING HOW LONG THE DRIED UP FECES, URINE AND FOOD PARTICLES HAVE BEEN IN THERE BUT MY FIRST TIME NOTICING IT WAS BACK IN 2017. IT IS NOW 2021 AND SAID CONDITIONS ARE STILL THE SAME. I REMEMBER A TIME WHEN I WAS ON IN-CELL RESTRAINTS IN THE 1-WEST HOUSING UNIT CELL #102. THE C/O BANGED ON THE DOOR AND SAID "BENNETT, CHOW". HE PULLED THE SAFETY TRAP UP, LIFTED THE LID PLACED THE TRAY, MILK AND UTENSILS INTO THE SAFETY TRAP, CLOSED THE LID BACK, PULLED THE SLIDER TO THE SIDE AND SAID "IT SMELLS LIKE SHIT" I EXPLAINED TO THE C/O THAT SOMEONE ELSE'S DRIED UP POOP AND URINE HAS BEEN SITTING INSIDE OF THE TRAP AND THAT IM NOT TAKING ANY FOOD TO EAT FROM OUT OF THAT SAFETY TRAP UNTIL IT GETS CLEANED. THE C/O THEN STATED "OK, I GUESS YOU DONT EAT THEN". I WENT ON FOR (3) THREE DAYS WITH-OUT EATING OR DRINKING WHILE ON IN-CELL RESTRAINTS.

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I RECALL NUMEROUS TIMES WHEN SUPERVISORS AND COPS ENTERED MY CELL WHILE I WAS ON IN-CELL RESTRAINTS TO DO A "RESTRAINT CHECKS" WITH-OUT A CAMERA/VIDEO CAMERA BEING PRESENT AND STAFF WOULD BEAT ME AND SPRAY ME WITH MACE AND CLAIM I WAS RESISTING. THEY GOT AWAY WITH IT BECAUSE THERES NEVER A VIDEO CAMERA WHEN THEY COME INTO THE CELL TO DO THE "RESTRAINT CHECK" AND THE STAFF LIVE BY A "CODE OF SILENCE". SOMETIMES I CANT TELL WHAT'S WORSE: THE PHYSICAL ABUSE OR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE. HERE AT NORTHERN C.I.'S (A.S) ADMINISTRATIVE SEGREGATION STATUS/PROGRAM <sup>THEY</sup> USE PSYCHOLOGICAL TACTICS SUCH AS "LEARNED HELPLESSNESS" (WHICH IS A DERIVATIVE OF "SKINNERIAN OPERAND CONDITION"), SENSORY DEPRIVATION AND DRUG THERAPY. SINCE A CHILD I'VE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH P.T.S.D., ANXIETY, DEPRESSION AND IMPULSIVE DISORDER. BEING IN THIS KIND OF ENVIRONMENT DOES NOT FIT MY INSTITUTIONAL NEEDS, AND IN FACT, WORSENS MY MENTAL DISORDERS TO THE POINT WHERE SOMETIMES I DONT FEEL AS THOUGH I AM HUMAN ANYMORE. THE "PROTECT ACT" GIVES ME HOPE THAT PEOPLE WILL "NEVER" ~~BE~~ HAVE TO ENDORE THE ABUSE THAT ME AND OTHERS HAVE HAD TO, WHILE BEING IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY. I AM A LITTLE CONTENT KNOWING THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE ON THE OUTSIDE WHOM SEE THAT WE ARE NOT ANIMALS AND ARE ACTUALLY TRYING TO PROTECT US WITH THE "PROTECT ACT". I'VE ALREADY LOST OUTSIDE CONTACT WITH SOME OF MY LOVED ONES BECAUSE OF MY NOT BEING ABLE TO USE THE TELEPHONE. PUTTING AN INMATE/DETAINED/CONVICT ON "LOSS OF PHONE", "LOSS OF MAIL" OR "LOSS OF VISITS" SHOULD BE DEEMED UNCONSTITUTIONAL BY LAW. I GREW UP IN DCF AND BARELY KNOW MY FAMILY. BY DOC NOT ALLOWING US TO HAVE PEOPLE <sup>VISIT</sup> THAT ARE NOT IN OUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY, IS DEEMED, INCONSIDERATELY COLD AND UNFAIR TO THOSE

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OF US WHO HAVE NO FAMILY BY BLOOD. THIS IS WHY I SUPPORT "PROTECT ACT"  
THE D.O.C. IS ALWAYS QUICK TO PENALIZE US INMATES IF WE  
ARE OR IF THEY FEEL AS THOUGH WE ARE IN THE WRONG BUT IF  
D.O.C. IS IN THE WRONG, THEY NEVER OWN UP NOR DO THEY  
GET PENALIZED. I UNDERSTAND THAT OUT THERE IN SOCIETY PRO-  
PEOPLE DEAL WITH "POLICE BRUTALITY" ON A DAY TO DAY BASIS.

IF PEOPLE KNEW THE TRUTH AS TO THE AMOUNT OF BRUTALITY AND COR-  
RUPTNESS THAT US PRISONERS DEAL WITH ON A DAY TO DAY BASIS IN REGARDS  
TO CT DOC'S STAFF, ADMINISTRATION, MENTAL HEALTH WORKERS AND SUPERVISORS,  
MAN WE WOULD ALL BE RICH AND FREE! D.O.C. FABRICATES REPORTS, TURNS  
BLIND EYES TO STAFF MISCONDUCT, BEATS AND SPRAY INMATES WITH MACE  
AND JUSTIFIES SAID ACTIONS BY CLAIMING A INMATE RESISTED OR  
ALLEGEDLY ASSAULTED STAFF, THEY DISH OUT DISINFORMATION TO INMATES  
TO HAVE US TURN ON EACH OTHER, THE BEAT AND SPRAY US WHILE WE'RE  
IN CHAINS OR HANDCUFFS, IT'S JUST REDICULOUS!!!! AND THIS ISN'T  
ONLY DONE TO INMATES ON SOLITARY CONFINEMENT STATUS / ADMINISTRATIVE  
SEGREGATION STATUS, NO THIS IS DONE TO MULTIPLE INMATES  
ALL OVER CONNECTICUT PRISONS. AND THAT'S FACT! MOST OF THE  
TAXPAYERS' MONEY IS GOING TO LAWSUITS AGAINST D.O.C. YOU THINK  
D.O.C. STAFF CARE ABOUT LAWSUITS? NO, THEY DON'T BECAUSE THE FIRST THING  
THEY SAY IS "I DON'T CARE BECAUSE IT'S NOT MY MONEY YOUR GETTING".  
I STRONGLY AND SINCERELY SUPPORT THE "PROTECT ACT" BECAUSE IT SEEKS TO  
CREATE AN "OFFICE OF CORRECTIONS OMBUDS". "STOPPING EXTREME ISOLATION",  
"ENDING ABUSIVE RESTRAINTS", "PROTECTING SOCIAL BONDS", "PROMOTING C/O WELLNESS", "SHUTTING DOWN  
"NORTHERN C.I.", ENFORCING "REFORMS DATA COLLECTIONS" AND "ENSURING D.O.C. OVERSIGHT  
& ACCOUNTABILITY", IS VITAL TO THE WELL BEING OF INCARCERATED PERSONS AND  
TO THE WELL BEING OF CT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND CT'S TAXPAYERS.

IF YOU HAVE THE POWER  
TO FIX A PROBLEM THAT IS  
SO OBVIOUSLY

STARING YOU IN THE FACE,  
THEN THAT POWER IS MEANT  
TO FIX!

IF NOT, THEN YOU'VE

OFFICIALLY  
BECOME PART OF THE  
PROBLEM

YOU SO OPENLY CONDONE  
TO!

-~~James A. Bennett~~  
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